Clerks or Peons for Panchayats.

103. Mr. V. V. Anantapadmanabha Ayyar.—Will the Government be pleased to inform the House.—

(a) whether Village Panchayats have been provided with clerks or peons to transact their business;

(b) the amount allowed to each Panchayat to cover the cost of establishment charges;

(c) whether the clerk's business is not being usually done by the village officers near the Panchayat?

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—(a) Panchayats invested with judicial powers are each given a clerk and a peon.

(b) The Member is referred to the detailed programme (a-Establishment-Appendix A of the Printed Budget).

(c) Yes, excepting Panchayats invested with judicial powers.

Original Works within the limits of Panchayats.

104. Mr. V. V. Anantapadmanbha Ayyar.—Will the Government be pleased to inform the House:—

(a) whether original works within the limits of the Panchayats are being carried out through the agency of the Public Works Department or otherwise;

(b) if the latter, whether the tenders are invited for such original works;

(c) if so, who invites such tenders, whether the Panchayat Superintendent or the President of the Panchayat concerned;

(d) whether any rules have been framed by the Government to regulate the procedure in such matters?

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—(a) Works provided for in the Panchayat programme are carried out by the Panchayats themselves or Departmentally through contract agency.

(b) Yes, when found necessary.

(c) Sometimes the Panchayat, sometimes the Superintendent of Agriculture and Panchayats.

(d) Yes.

Mr. V. V. Anantapadmanabha Ayyar.—May I know why definite rules have not been framed in respect of the works allotted for the Panchayats?

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—There are rules.

Mr. V. V. Anantapadmanabha Ayyar.—Are tenders called for passed by the Panchayat Presidents concerned or by the Superintendent of Panchayats?

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—The system of calling for tenders was started early this year. It is done by the Panchayat Presidents concerned.

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